

PRINCE ALBERT TIMES
AND
SASKATCHEWAN REVIEW

SPINK & MAVEETY

T. A. SPINK. J. D. MAVEETY.

PRINCE ALBERT, N. W. T.

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THE FENIAN SCARE.

The latest sensation in this part of the world, and not so very far away, is another Fenian scare, for by the recent telegraphic advice we hear that some 20,000 (?) so-called Fenians are about to invade Manitoba. This has occasioned quite a flutter of excitement in this neighborhood, and some of the most extraordinary and most amusing notions have been promulgated, when the conversation has taken this turn. Though nothing much is to be feared from these gentlemen (?) still in such dull times as the present, we ought to be thankful to them for giving us a topic upon which to ventilate our ideas, which otherwise might remain stagnant for want of something to do. The Fenians rather resemble the mosquito in natural history, they are a great nuisance, but serve to occupy ones time, in keeping them away and preventing them from worrying too much, and when ones does cast a little diversion in the way of their project, received and stinging attack, (like our friend) with the dynamite at the Victoria Railway station, London, England, lately beyond the annoyance of the moment (little or no harm is done, viewing it in the light of a national disaster, as they would not doubt wish us to do. Of course an army of them might kill (if only by suffocating) one, but it takes a great number to swell the ranks of an army. But to return to our friends the Fenians, now supposed to be assembling in tens of thousands on the Canadian frontier. Just let us look at the subject in a purely matter-of-fact point of view (always keeping the before-mentioned mosquito parallel in mind). First and foremost, never mind how old the organization, or how secret their actions, it is utterly impossible in these days for even half of twenty thousand men alone, to assemble anywhere at any place, before their project is well known far and wide, by the aid of the telegraph, newspaper and reports. Then, where have they been all this time? So far, so good. Then, secondly, twenty thousand men, having twenty thousand mouths, require food, and some little time to assemble together, consequently even supposing each man to be supplied with money, and taking certain quantity of canned goods, they will have to squander his last cent in a great measure with Adams' sack, and a beautiful Providence has supplied this Dominion with many lakes and brooks, so as to favor his ungodly schemes, so that it may justify, in this way, say that "Providence is on his side." While they are mustering it is reasonable to suppose that some, more especially those who come first, and consequently have to be first served, will turn out of position, whilst they are waiting for the remainder as they cannot all appear at one moment, and what are the chances to do then for food? And lastly, supposing (a great supposition truly) these twenty thousand gallant warriors to be all assembled, aimed to the teeth and thirsting for the fray, how are they to carry their sustenance for men and beast to them, in a new and partially settled country, like that which we now occupy. So far, it comes down to a question of convenience at and not men and money that will principally impede the advance of these war-like heroes, and twenty thousand men bringing their own cartridges and forage with them would only get in one another's way, in getting to their place of meeting, and in all probability by previous skirmishes lessen the numbers of the invading army. Until they arrive at this rendezvous it is evident that they can be nothing more than a disorganized rabble, or we should have heard of them long before this. They may possibly create all the excitement but cannot do much harm, though they may have to be watched occasionally like the mosquitoes to prevent their taking too many liberties. We will say nothing of the more than probable and loyal reception that they might meet with on this side of the frontier, which might cause them to hesitate and confine their demonstrations away from Canadian soil. When we come to

think that in the Franco-Prussian war of 1870, how often an army corps belonging to the most highly organized and disciplined military power in the world, and whose plans had been traced day by day on paper, years before-hand, and even all possible contingencies provided against, had to move out of its line of march, through the richest and most fertile country in Europe, and so change the features of the campaign almost entirely on account of the simple question of "supplies" to itself and other parts of the same moving mass, we will realize what an immense undertaking it is to move even ten thousand organized and well drilled men, even a few miles, and give them the necessary supplies along the line of march. Therefore, we think that we may rest in peace, and that we won't be stung badly this time, even though summer is approaching and Fenians and mosquitoes loom darkly in the distance.

EGYPT.

From troubles at home we turn to troubles abroad. Indeed it is truly said that these same never come singly. As we predicted some weeks ago England has again been drawn into the Egyptian difficulty, and to keep up her own prestige in Europe, and over the fanciful mind of Mahomedan Asia and Africa, has had to take up the cudgels in behalf of her old ally, Egypt. We hear by the latest telegraphic news that British troops have been again landed in this country. This means, of course, an augmentation of the original army of occupation, which has never been totally withdrawn, though greatly lessened in numbers, since the defeated Arab Pasha in 1882. We also hear that engagements are expected daily. This, of course, may or may not beget it will almost entirely rest with our troops to choose the time, if not the place of such engagements. For El Mahadi will soon, we trust, have a lesson that he cannot lay down to us when we shall fight him, and where, so long as we have the sea shore to fall back on strategically, with the British fleet at anchor in the Red Sea or Mediterranean. Of course, had the army been beguiled into making a long march inland, where there would be difficulties to surmount in the way of an unknown country and of obtaining water and provisions, it would be different, but as it is we have the whip-hand of our antagonist, and have furthermore far too much confidence in our leaders, to suppose that they would be rashly and prematurely led on to almost certain destruction, without taking every precaution to guard against disaster and so sacrifice thousands of valuable lives. The False Prophet, as he is called, will also we trust quickly find out that he has a European and well organized army to fight against, and not such stuff as the Egyptian gendarmier, with whom up to this he has been brought in contact. Of course, at present, with the very meagre telegraphic information that has at present reached this country, it would be folly to go into the "shall be" of the future, but with every confidence in our Queen, country soldiers, sailors and their leaders, we trust that we can predict a short, glorious and victoriously decisive campaign. It is said that the British troops are outnumbered, so they would be in any country like Egypt, where every man who carries a rifle of his own accord and joins an armed mob, composed entirely of the same material, calls himself a soldier. Put it is not the first time by a very long way that our army has fought against odds, and very long odds too, and come out successful, and the greater the odds the greater the glory. So we will wish them "Good luck and a speedy return to their homes," and wait patiently and hopefully for the result, in which the words "victory, gallantry and success" will be felt sorely held very conspicuous places.

THE HUDSON BAY ROUTE.

The principal topic of interest, both in the North West and Manitoba still continues to be the Hudson's Bay route, and every paper that we take up has something to say in the matter, or of along meetings held, or letters from people on all sides of the question that is of such vital importance to all present and future settlers in this vast country. Of course in great questions like the present people's opinions are almost entirely governed by their own individual interests, and again in this is only too perfectly as it should be, for if every one has their say in the matter, those who carry the majority will have the scale turned in their favor, and the route, eventually chosen, will confer benefit to the many at the cost of the few. We can, therefore, heartily echo the sentiments expressed by the

speakers at the recent mass meeting at Brandon, that all party feeling, political or personal, should be put aside, and that this be looked upon, by one and all, as a great provincial undertaking. There is no doubt that in laying down the direction of a new line, for the general benefit of the whole country, that individual feelings should be sunk in determining dispassionately what is really for the country's good, and at the same time it is absurd to think that the actions of the people of the North West are to be governed, as regards the results of their own manual efforts and labors, by the people of Winnipeg, or any other place, outside this country, who in furthering their own schemes, hope to be able by the very influence that they can bring to bear locally, on the slight advantage they obtain by having a fixed geographical position, to dictate to us what we shall do with our own province. What the people of the North West have to study first and foremost is—What route will be the quickest, cheapest, safest and best to their own advantage, to enable them to get the fruits of their toil to the best markets, and having decided this to work one and all to make their wish an accomplished fact. As regards the route there can be but one idea present to the mind of anyone who has studied the question thoroughly with the aid of a map of the country, and that is the line from Calgary to some Hudson Bay port, a matter to be decided hereafter by competent Maritime authorities, we as to bring the principal rivers of the North West to play their parts as thoroughfares on both sides of and in aid of the line crossing them. Such line would necessarily touch at Prince Albert so we can only take one view of the matter.

INSPECTOR PEARCE.

In the Winnipeg Daily Sun of the 12th inst appears an item copied from the *Manitoba Situation* in which allusion is made to Mr. Commissioner Pearce with whom many residents of Prince Albert have recently become acquainted.

"There has been other grievances, some of them quite serious, concerning the administration of the public lands in the North West, during the past two or three years. Most of these have been redressed, but just now there is universal dissatisfaction with Mr. Pearce, of the Winnipeg Land Board. His conduct towards settlers is doing much to destroy the usefulness of Mr. Walsh's administration, which would otherwise be a great blessing."

The disparaging tenor of this paragraph which we quote in full, displays characteristics in Mr. Pearce, so directly opposed to the impression which his courteous reception of claimants to lands has created in this District that we imagine the *Manitoba Situation* in this instance to be an instrument in the hands of some malicious individual; the articles having probably been written in the interests of some speculative squatter, who has a grudge to satisfy against the Commissioner. We can inform the *Manitoba Situation*, that the bona fide settler of the Prince Albert District believes Mr. Pearce to be their warm friend and ally, and if the interest and zeal displayed by him in the adjustment of land matters in this District is to be taken as a fair criterion of his conduct in other parts of the North West, we think the allusions of the *Situation* are not deter Mr. Pearce from proceeding in the straight-forward course which in dealing in land matters he seems to have adopted.

The speculative element is, we imagine, in all new countries of appreciable numerical importance, and we do not doubt that in his attitude towards this class Mr. Pearce may have excited some animosity as is shown in such questionable manner in the article we quote.

We venture to assert that not one honest settler in the North West or Manitoba would endorse the sentiments of the paragraph quoted, and although we fully sympathize with the original idea of establishing such a newspaper as the *Manitoba Situation* published in Ottawa, as the exponent of North West sentiments, we are certainly of opinion that articles of this nature can do no good and probably much harm, to the cause which the *Manitoba* has espoused.

MILK ! MILK !

NO ADULTERATION.

The undersigned is prepared to receive orders for the delivery of milk (in any quantity) daily, and to let with J. M. Campbell & Co. R. Deacon will be promptly attended to.

WM. BROWN.

P. S. To a part that will be supplied for the use of my customers, with their names painted on them, who are expected to keep them in order.

Royal Mail.

CHEAP FARES.

Prices to suit the Times.

From Prince Albert to Troy.
Single Down Trip \$25.00
Up, Down, and Return \$50.00
Exclusive of board and extra baggage.

The above fares are exclusively for the benefit of the inhabitants of Prince Albert, only all further notice.

STEWART, LERSON & SCOTT,
Multi Contractors.



PUBLIC NOTICE.

All persons are hereby required to take notice that the existing of timber on the public lands without authority from the Minister of the Interior or the Local agent of Dominion Lands for the District is prohibited by law, and all timber so cut without authority is liable to seizure, and to be dealt with as the Minister of the Interior may direct.

Each settler to a homestead quarter section not having timber on it, may, on application to the Local Agent of Dominion Lands, purchase a wood lot not exceeding twenty acres in extent, at \$3 per acre.

Any person other than a homestead settler desiring permission to cut timber must make application therefor to the Minister of the Interior, who will deal with such application according to law.

Persons who have already cut timber without authority must pay the dues thereon to the Crown Timber Agent at his office on or before the 1st May, 1884, otherwise the said timber will be confiscated under the Dominion Lands Act.

D. J. WAGGONER,
Crown Timber Agent.

SEEDS !

Agricultural, Garden and Flower Seeds, Cereals, Timothy and all varieties of Grass Seeds, Tree seeds, carefully selected and on application.

R. R. KEITH & CO., Seedsmen
161 Main-st., Winnipeg.

DR. A. STACHOUSE.

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The Grand Central.

RESTAURANT.

(Old Woodbine Saloon.)

This new Restaurant has been opened and is now ready for business.

MEALS AT ALL HOURS.

THOMAS GRAM PROP.

KNOX & BARKER,

CARPENTERS & CO.

Office and Workshop.

Near Presbyterian Church.

JUST RECEIVED AT THE

MEDICAL HALL.

Victoria Hypophosphates.

Victoria Buchu and Uva Ursi.

Victoria Carbolic Acid soap.

Burdock Blood Bitters.

Burdock Pills.

Hagyard's Cough Balm.

Hagyard's Yellow Cream.

Direct from the Manufacturers.

T. E. JACKSON.

J. O. DAVIS & CO.

Don't talk unless you have something to say.

I whose purpose is to sell will praise but not exceed the truth, even to sell.

The Boom is off!

We are determined to sell out at actual cost. Hard Lines.

Better luck next time.

What cannot be avoided.

Twere childish weakness to lament.

How often in affairs of men we see

Dull hesitation and in woe lies

If losses must be made, decide at once.

And with proceeds of thy sales let

cheaper.

Hold that's put to use more gold legions.

You know how we are situated. Please call and say you wish to buy for cash.

This will be sure to establish a very agreeable feeling between us. You will thereby be master of the situation, and we will be sure to serve you in a satisfactory manner.

BRANCH STORE

Near the building occupied by the late firm of Ashdown & Agnew.

in the west end.

Mr. W. C. Ramsey is in charge, and the public may depend on courteous treatment.

J. O. DAVIS & CO.,

Wholesale and Retail

PRINCE ALBERT

TERRITORIAL NEWS.

BATTLEFORD

From the Herald, Feb. 9.
Mr. Prince's grist mill will soon arrive here.
Messrs. land have burned a kiln of lime.
Sgt. Warden has returned from a visit to the old country.
The fatal wreck Mackie will assume the charge of the hospital on the barracks.
The ladies of this place gave a ball on the 2nd inst., and was a great success.
It is expected that there will be a weekly mail between Battleford and Edmonton shortly.
The Indians who came from the south last fall have cut and put up 1,000 cords of wood near the town and have also burned a kiln of lime.

EDMONTON

From the Herald, Feb. 9.
The H. B. grist mill began work yesterday.
The attendance at the public school for January averaged thirty-one.
There are two day schools at White Lake under the auspices of the Canadian Methodist missionary society.
Work in the lumber woods is progressing very favorably. The H. B. Co. have twenty-seven men with three horse teams hauling to the bank and three ox teams skidding, and have 3,500 logs on the bank and 2,000 skidded. D. Noyes has twenty men and the same number of teams and has the same number of logs on the bank.

FORT McLEOD.

From the Gazette, Feb. 10.
The citizens' hall takes place on the 25th inst.
Mr. Chas. Arand intends starting a barber shop here.
There is a cow about town one of whose horns are so large that it is feared to grow further will pierce her head above the eye.
The N. W. M. P. Dramatic Club will give a grand performance on the 26th inst. This will be the first appearance of ladies on the amateur stage here.
At the Blood Reserve, on the same date, are two church unions of different denominations. It has been very appropriately named "The Saints Rest."
All the trails leading into town are very heavy. The snow, although not melted, has settled down and is packed pretty solid, and as no one here possesses a sleigh, traveling on wheels is rather difficult.

CALGARY

From the Herald, Feb. 10.
Jess Williams, the murderer, was photographed on Saturday.
Mr. Henderson's horse ran away on Saturday smashing the backboard.
On Monday night the thermometer showed thirty nine degrees below zero.
A social is to be held in the Presbytery on Church on the first Friday in March.
Operations have commenced on the ridge across the Elbow. It will cost \$275.
A number of persons have been complaining, during the last two weeks, of being frost bitten.
A large quantity of ice is being taken out of the Bow River for home consumption and shipment east.
On Saturday morning Williams, the murderer, attempted to escape from the cell in which he was confined.
School opened on Monday and a very large attendance greeted the new teacher, who receives a salary of \$50 a month.
Mr. Fraser has ordered machinery for the manufacture of confectionery and expects to supply the whole western trade.
A meeting of the young people of the town was held on Monday evening for the purpose of organizing an association for the young people. Officers were appointed and the constitution discussed. It will start with a membership of fifty.
Mr. Fraser, confectioner, has lately received from the H. B. Deer country a very valuable rarity, at least for this country. The bird in question resembles the country magpie, but closely that of a magpie of Saskatchewan has pronounced it a veritable magpie, but the question arises how did it ever reach this country.
On Saturday last one of our citizens was copying the sight of a deer passing an Indian. Being deeply interested in the race, he did not for a time notice that the animal had suddenly changed its object of its pursuit from the Indian to himself till the boy was close upon him. He then made for a pile of logs, and as he was about to climb upon them the brute gave him a hoist landing him high and dry without injury.

REGINA

From the Leader, Feb. 11.
Lulu Richardson has returned from Ottawa.
George Gordon Dewdney and wife left for British Columbia on Monday.
A public meeting to organize a farmers' union will be held on the 23rd inst.
Messrs. Davidson and Scott's delegates, have had an interview with Mr. Macpherson.
Mayor Bond has been appointed administrator of the Government of the North West, during the absence of the Lord Grenville.
Moose Jaw
From the News, Feb. 12.
Jess Williams will be hung on the 25th of March.
This twice a week mail arrangement is altogether too slow for this god-forsaken country.
The C. P. R. loan resolutions have been carried in the House of Commons by a majority of 70.
Late despatches indicate a great boom in Silver City. Population now 1,500; real estate has doubled in value within a short time. The people are flocking there from British Columbia and across the line. Silver has been discovered in large quantities at the 33rd siding, the end of the track.
Manitoba.
Brandon.
From the Blade, Feb. 11.
Jerry Robinson & Co. have opened a branch store here.
The early closing movement has been largely adopted by our merchants.
The social held in the Methodist Church on Tuesday evening was very well attended, notwithstanding the unfavorable weather.
For sometime shopping has been carried on to a large extent, several of our merchants having missed a number of articles. On Tuesday the police succeeded in arresting three men with the stolen articles in their possession.
Stone Falls.
From the News, Feb. 9.
There will be only three trains a week between Winnipeg and Stone Falls for a short time.
Mr. Hickox's team ran away from the post office, while he was inside getting his mail, on Tuesday. No damage.
The machinery for Mr. Ford's coat mill arrived at Winnipeg on Tuesday, and things will be booming at the mill in a short time.
Two sleigh loads of the scholars of the Balmoral public school were photographed on Saturday last. It is intended as a present to their late teacher, Miss Jennie Wells, who is at present residing in Aurora, Ont.
Portage la Prairie
From the Review, Feb. 9.
A calico ball will be given on March 7, in aid of the poor of the town.
108 sacks of meal were turned out at the oat meal mill on Tuesday last in five hours.
Conductor Baker of the M. & N. W. railway was presented with a gold ring on Thursday, by his train hands.
Between three and four o'clock last Wednesday, fire was discovered in the Central school. The alarm was given and the pupils dismissed. Before the brigade got there the fire had been put out by a few buckets of snow. A few dollars will repair the damage done.
Mr. John Baker, late chief accountant of the M. & N. W. R. was presented with an address and two pieces of silverware on Saturday last, by the employees of the road, previous to his departure for St. Paul, where he will assume a responsible position in connection with an American railway.

NOTICE!

TO THE PUBLIC.

Meals at all Hours!

FIRST CLASS

HAY & BARLEY

W H BARTLETT

BONANZA!

Still on the War Path

WITH A LARGE LINE OF GOODS

And Slaughtering the Prices.

Remember, it is not old stock which we are selling, as we claim no title of King or Prince, but to have on hand now the best & lowest stock in the North West, consider us as follows:

Dry Goods and Novelties!

Including a large line of Dress Goods, Ladies' Jackets, Ladies' and Gents' Hats, children's Hoods and Jerseys, Handkerchiefs, Laces, Ribbons, Shawls, Cloaks, Hosiery, Bedsteads, Blankets, Prints, Ginghams, Wiggins, White and colored Flannels, etc., also a large stock of Ready Made Clothing, Fur Caps and Overcoats, Groceries, Tea, Coffee, Sugars, Canned Goods, Beans, Sherry, Marcelline, etc.

All goods fresh and new. An inspection of our stock will satisfy the closest buyers to the truth of what we say. All goods at bottom prices.

J. M. CAMPBELL.

O. E. HUGHES & CO., General Merchants AND Indian Traders,

JUST TO HAND FUR and WINTER GOODS, Ladies Cardigan Jackets, Persian Lamb Hats, Etc.

Princess Albert, N. B. C. BOOTS AND SHOES CHEAP!

We claim to have the best assorted stock of

Boots AND Shoes

In Prince Albert, and are selling at prices which defy competition.

CUSTOM WORK

Warranted and done at shortest notice.

REPAIRING

Promptly attended to.

SHANNON & McLEOD

THE GABLE HOUSE.



THE BEST OUTFIT OF Pool, Carom & Pigeon Hole Tables IN THE TERRITORY.

The Best BEER and CIGARS of the Finest Brands always on hand, wholesale and retail.

JOHN WYMERKIRCH, - PROP.

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Life Insurance Co'y,

the City of New York.

ESTABLISHED 1849.

Deposits with Dominion Government \$100,000.

ASSETS \$2,116,814 45

Office, Bird Block, 433 Main St.

G. H. MAGUIRE, Provincial Manager.

This Company issues policies upon all forms of property for liberty and freedom from restriction.

Policies are renewable for any cause whatever after three years. Every form of Tontine Policy issued.

JOHN F. BETTS, Agent.

Canada Life Assurance

COMPANY

ESTABLISHED 1847

HEAD OFFICE:

HAMILTON, ONT.

Capital & Funds, nearly \$8,000,000

Annual Income, over \$1,000,000.

A general agent of the Company will visit this town a few weeks hence, and will assist me in offering the great advantages to be derived from insuring in this old and reliable Company.

A. SPROAT,

AGENT, Prince Albert District, N.W.T.

PHOTOGRAPHS!

Chas. E. Page.

NEW STUDIO.

EAST END.

C. D. NORTHGRAVES,

Watchmaker and Jeweller,

A T. N. Campbell's New Store,

A LARGE STOCK OF

Watches,

Clocks and

Jewellery

KEPT CONSTANTLY ON HAND

Repairing Promptly Attended to

JAMES SINCLAIR,

Merchant Tailor,

Has just received his new stock of

Fall and Winter Goods,

And is prepared to supply his numerous customers with

Suits to please the fancy of all.

Also a large stock of

UNDERCLOTHING

A Large Assortment of

FUR CAPS AND MITTS

Give me a call.

JAMES SINCLAIR

EAST END BAKERY

Eight Loaves for \$1

Take and Delivery Made to Order

HUGH McDUGALL,

East End Bakery.

Prince Albert Bakery.

2 LB LOAF, 12 C.

9 LOAVES, 15.

Cakes and Pastry always on hand and made to order.

WM. R. BELL.

Farmers' Restaurant.

Meals at all Hours.

Good Beer and Cigars always on hand.

Good Boarding Stable in connection.

R. J. O'LEARY

PROPRIETOR

FURNITURE

Just arrived. In addition to our former large stock we have received some

Fancy Parlor

AND

Bedroom Sets.

Give us a call and see our

Sideboards,

Bureaus,

Bedsteads,

Couches,

Sofas,

Chairs of nearly all Descriptions,

Cradles & Cribbs for the Babies

Rocking Chairs for the Ladies

Mattresses Single & Double to suit Customers.

C. & C. E. CARTER,

What are the Wild

Waves Saying?

Buy your Groceries in the cheapest place in town,

THE HORSE SHOE STORE

where you can get fresh goods; no old stock. Everything cut down to hardpan.

DRY GOODS AT COST.

FANCY GOODS AT COST.

Call and examine; no trouble to show goods.

T. O. DAVIS.

PRINCE ALBERT

Planing Mills and

Sash and Door Factory

JOE. NESBIT AND MACKAY MTS.

Sash, Doors, Frames, Blinds, Mouldings and all Builders' Furnishings made to order on the shortest notice.

GOODFELLOW BROS. - PROP'S.

Prince Albert, N.W.T.

W. J. CARTER,

Builder and Contractor.

All Orders Promptly Attended to.

Plans and estimates furnished when required.

Planing and Matching done to order, next to H. B. C. Grist Mill.

Residence - Near Presbyterian Church.

WALTERS & BAKER,

General Merchants.

H. WALTERS, F. C. BAKER,

Batche. Prince Albert.

HUDSON BAY ROUTE.

The Country and Climate Along the Hudson's Bay Route, from a Lecture by Adrian Nelson.

Starting from Winnipeg and going a little north and west to the neighborhood of Selkirk to the Grand Rapids on the Big Saskatchewan, the country travelled through is such that the expense of building a railway would not be great. It is a very level country with prairie, woods, open meadow and little muskeg. There is no rock in this country on the surface, but there are large quantities of limestone and freestone beneath. These seams can be seen cropping out in Lake Winnipeg, at the "Cat Head," the "Dog Head," the "Cat Head," and the "Grand Point." This would be a valuable acquisition to the railway. Besides which it would be a paying country for a railroad, because most of the land is very good for farming. The prairie, similar to that in the Red River at Gimli, and supports a growth of fine spruce timber, far superior to any found on the other side of Lake Winnipeg. As can be seen by the specimen-cut by the sawmill at the Fisher River, which is on the west side, about 120 miles north of Selkirk. Railways would have to be built, there is no river of any size across, and this can be done by a bridge of less than 100 feet span, within three miles of Lake Winnipeg, at the head of the rapid, where there is a fine harbor. The Little Saskatchewan, as well as the Big Saskatchewan, would be direct through the country by a straight line with the railway, the immense tract of fine country lying round Manitoba and Winnipeg and the lower portion of the Big Saskatchewan. Both of these rivers have over 1,000 miles of unbroken navigation in connection with them, with fine harbors. The importance of this fact in connection with using the west side of the lake for the railway cannot be too highly estimated. It may be shown that it would put in place communications with the European markets over ten million acres of magnificent land, supposing that only one third of the country lying within reach of the steamers navigating these waters was fit for agriculture. This portion of the line is 270 miles long. At Grand Rapids an extensive bridge would have to be built, but this could be conveniently done at a point about half a mile above the rapid, where there is a good place for it. The next section of the line, which is that from Grand Rapids to Sea Falls, is about 30 miles further north than Norway House, at the head of the line to land, because it is a rough and broken country of sand ridges, muskeg and trees, and the Nelson river has to be crossed twice. It is here that the Nelson River leaves Lake Winnipeg, and it is very wide, consisting of two branches, having many deep bays and wide expanses, which are usually looked upon as lakes. There is also great deal of rock on the east side, but it is here that the Nelson country, which is characteristic of the east side of Lake Winnipeg, crosses the valley of the Nelson River and forms the height of land between the waters of this lake and the Hudson's Bay. Nature has placed a large tract of marshy country on the west side of the river, which it leaves Lake Winnipeg, when the railway takes advantage of it, and reaches Sea Falls without much loss of time. This expansion of the Nelson River, which the muskeg which makes this river so wide here, being about 25 miles from the west to the east bank. Practically, however, it is two rivers of several hundred yards in width, with a large island known as Ross Island, which is about 20 miles wide by 50 miles long, is situated right in the middle of the river, dividing into two streams. The bridge, therefore, would probably consist of several small spans from one point to another, there being good sites to stand on, and it would have comparatively easy access to the water. These waterways make the Nelson River a fine waterway for navigation, and Sea Falls being the most navigable of the waters stretching out from the city of Winnipeg, there is therefore no reason why barges should not be taken in the barges and steamers at present in use from Winnipeg and Selkirk to this point, making out no expense. This was well understood by the promoters of the Winnipeg and Hudson Bay railroad, and they therefore proposed to construct that part of the line which extends from Port Nelson to Sea Falls and utilize Lake Winnipeg and the waters in connection with it as a waterway for the line. This was a very good idea. Attended by them I made a one day trip, taking a launch from Sea Falls to the mouth of the Nelson River, and found a good anchorage and harbor. There is no muskeg, no timber in this section of the line, but there is good, the remainder of the land is principally sand and muskeg, and also some fine timber lands. The length of this section is about 10 miles, of which perhaps 10 miles would be rock work, but as the country is flat, there would not be much heavy cutting. From Sea Falls to the proposed site for a harbor at Port Nelson there is a distance of 2.0 miles through a country of alternate tracts of good land, forest, muskeg, and perhaps 10 miles of muskeg, but as the country is flat, there would not be much heavy cutting. Because of all practical purposes there is no rock in this section of the road. Travelling through the country here by the Hudson's Bay Company's boats is very deceptive, for all the rivers have high banks, which expose a rough, rocky face. Especially in the case of Sea Falls. White water rapids, and the Nelson River, and from Sea Falls to Kuc Lake. Once, however, these are surmounted, it will be found that the country is generally level, with very little exposed

by high hills of clay. It is from this peculiarity of the country that such a peculiar impression of its nature was formed as very few men, except Indians, ever left the boat track and ventured into the interior. There are two large rivers to the west of the Fox, the Fox and the Fox. From the Fox, which is north of Oxford House, the country is of a strange character, and it is not until this is reached that any indications of an arctic region are met with. The country is an extensive muskeg, covered with small spruce trees and I believe it is perfectly frozen. The surface of this muskeg is covered with a deep layer of thick green moss, and immediately below this there is ice and frozen earth at a depth of nine to fifteen inches. Strangely enough, right on the top of this moss there is a luxuriant growth of wild fruit which ripens and comes to great perfection and especially is the case with the wild strawberry, raspberry, salmon berry and cranberry. That such plants should have ripened fruit under these circumstances is peculiar, but I think it may be traced to the non-conductivity of the moss to heat and the extreme long bright sunshine of the summer days. From this country was not a day's frost in evidence from the fact that all over the country there are numerous trunks of trees of a large size partially rotten, and lying in all directions, and such timber could not have grown in this country. Where, however, this moss has been removed by fire or accident, the ground thaws out the same as it does here and reveals a fine sandy loam soil. The country between Sea Falls and Fox River is not frozen like this, but supports a good growth of fine timber, and as many large trunks of good farming land. However, it must not be forgotten that it is said that the climate of this portion of the country is not fit for farming and raising wheat, but as the same statements were once made in regard to Manitoba, and as no one has ever tried it or attempted so far to any extent it is impossible to form a correct opinion on it. It is certain that at Oxford House first-class vegetables are grown, and though it has often been denied, cabbage, onions, turnips and potatoes have been successfully cultivated at York Factory, or rather in the vicinity, at Ten Mile Creek. There, I think, good reason to suppose that wheat would not be a good crop in these localities, but at Norway House there can be no doubt but what it would do well, and at Oxford House, which is about 60 miles farther north, all garden produce and barley can be successfully grown. As the same trees, bushes, and wild fruit and flowers grow there to the same perfection as they do on Lake Winnipeg, it is but fair to suppose that a somewhat similar climate exists.

This brings us to the next step in the scheme. The promoters, by careful explorations for a period of four years, have arrived at the statements that the country was of the rugged nature, were next confronted by a further statement in regard to the fact. It has no longer been possible to believe that both Port Churchill and Port Nelson were each capable of sheltering the largest sailing vessels, so that of thick ice which broke up with the floods of melting snow in the spring, packing and smashing all the vessels. Good reasons for this were also made with Archangel in Russia which being in latitude 64° 30' is some 360 miles further north and open for only four months of the year. Professor Bell, Mr. Bayne and Mr. Jakes have all given ample evidence against this. These two men, who I have here to give us the very good idea of the nature of the harbor at the disposal of the railway. The first of these Port Churchill, which in latitude 58° 00' is naturally shaped as to be perfectly sheltered against the roughest storms. It is deep enough to allow the latest vessels to approach close to the shore. The entrance is narrow and somewhat impeded by a bar, but these difficulties are not sufficient to prevent a steamer entering at any time, but might in spring impede a sailing vessel contending with floating ice. La Pave entered with a French mail steamer in 1782, experiencing no difficulty, although a stranger and an enemy. Though this is some evidence in favor of the port, and although the Hudson's Bay Company's ships have been in and out a hundred times, as it is one of the first ports that they made use of, yet the fact that this little Hudson's Bay Company's vessel Sea Nymph was frozen in there, has been advanced as a reason for rejecting the port and the whole scheme. News at York Factory is on board this ship and the impression left on my mind is one of astonishment that a company of prominent merchants, members of the greatest nation of sailors the world ever saw, should continue to risk their property and the lives of their servants in such a risky venture to leave York Factory and sail to Port Churchill late in the year, should be accepted as most telling evidence in favor of the navigation of the Hudson Bay. This, however, is only the second time during the whole course of the Hudson's Bay Company's existence that their ship has been frozen in, and it happened once before in the James



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